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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/735,697	12/12/2000	Noel Lcc	P1230	6750
7590 01/25/2005				
LaRIVIERE, GRUBMAN & PAYNE, LLP P.O. BOX 3140 MONTEREY,, CA 93942			EXAMINER DEBERADINIS, ROBERT L	
			ART UNIT 2836	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/735,697

Applicant(s)

LEE, NOEL

Examiner

Robert DeBeradinis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 49-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 49-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The reply filed 11/12/04 consists of canceling claims 1-48, amending claims 49, 56, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and remarks related to rejection of claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 49, 52, 56, 58-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DWIGHT Des. 401,220 in view of BARNA 5,775,935.

Regarding claims 49, 56, 58-62.

DWIGHT discloses a design patent disclosing a power strip housing having a plurality of colored areas (different hatching indicating different colors).

DWIGHT does not teach the colored areas are for selectively identifying each outlet of said power distribution outlets.

BARNA discloses system and method using a color coded tag to tag a power cable (column 5, lines 26-45) of a device wherein the color of the power cord connection cable corresponds with the color of the color coded alignment strip (column 5, lines 15-17) and that the colors located near or proximate to the connection port aids a user in

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determining which cable should be connected with the corresponding connection port (column 5, lines 60-62).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to tag a power cord with the corresponding color of the power outlet on the power strip disclosed by DWIGHT. The motivation would be to provide an indication as to which device is not plugged into the power strip (column 6, lines 27, 28).

Regarding claim 52.

DWIGHT in view of BARNA disclose the AC power distribution system as recited in claim 49.

DWIGHT discloses wherein the power strip includes at least one telephone jack (figure 7).

Regarding claim 57.

DWIGHT in view of BARNA disclose the AC power distribution system as recited in claim 49.

BARNA discloses color cords having colors corresponding to the colors of said color areas (column 5, lines 2-18).

Claims 50, 51, 54, 55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DWIGHT Des. 401,220 in view of BARNA 5,775,935 in further view of LINER 5,708,554.

Regarding claims 50, 51.

DWIGHT in view of BARNA disclose the AC power distribution system as recited in claim 49.

DWIGHT in view of BARNA does not disclose an outlet of greater size than each of substantially identical AC power distribution outlets.

LINER discloses a power outlet box having an oversized outlet in that it is spaced from other outlets to allow an over size plug to be inserted (column 1, lines 34-38).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to modify the power strip to include an oversized outlet. The motivation would be to insert an oversized plug into the power strip.

Regarding claim 54.

LINER discloses main power switch 18 used for turning power on and off to the power outlet box.

Regarding claim 55.

LINER discloses indicator light L1.

Claim 53 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DWIGHT Des. 401,220 in view of BARNA 5,775,935 in further view of CRANE 5,899,761.

Regarding claim 53.

DWIGHT in view of BARNA disclose the AC power distribution system as recited in claim 49.

DWIGHT in view of BARNA does not disclose at least one coaxial cable jack.

CRANE discloses a power strip including coaxial plug 72.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of this invention to modify the power strip disclosed by DWIGHT in view of BARNA to

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include at least one coaxial cable jack. The motivation would be to provide at least one coaxial line interface.

Response to Arguments


Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Robert L. DeBeradinis whose number is (571) 272-2049. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached on (571) 272-2058. The Fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

RLD

DECEMBER 15, 2004


ROBERT L. DEBERADINIS
PRIMARY EXAMINER